

1 **CLAIMS**

2  
3 1. A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions  
4 that perform the following when executed by a computer:

5 receiving a request to perform a media operation with respect to a media  
6 file;

7 determining a media provider to which the media file is attributable;

8 assessing if the media provider allows the media operation to be performed  
9 with respect to the media file; and

10 performing the requested media operation if allowed by the media provider.  
11

12 2. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the determining is  
13 performed with the aid of a unique identifier for the media provider that is within  
14 the media file.  
15

16 3. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the determining is  
17 performed by finding a unique identifier associated with the media provider that is  
18 within a header of the media file.  
19

20 4. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the determining is  
21 performed without communication across a communications network.  
22

23 5. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the assessing is  
24 performed by executing computer code received from the media provider.  
25

1 6. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the assessing is  
2 performed by executing a code module received from the media provider and  
3 associated with the requested media operation.

4  
5 7. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the assessing is  
6 performed by calling an API associated with a code module, wherein the code  
7 module is received from the media provider and associated with the requested  
8 media operation.

9  
10 8. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the assessing is  
11 performed without communication across a communications network.

12  
13 9. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, further comprising  
14 communicating with the media provider if the media operation is not allowed by  
15 the media provider.

16  
17 10. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, further comprising  
18 communicating with the media provider if the media operation is not allowed by  
19 the media provider and presenting options to a user for gaining allowance from the  
20 media provider.

21  
22 11. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the receiving is  
23 through a user interface and further comprising communicating with the media  
24 provider if the media operation is not allowed by the media provider and  
25

1 presenting options to a user through the user interface for gaining allowance from  
2 the media provider.

3  
4 **12.** The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the media operation  
5 includes downloading the media file to a portable media playing device.

6  
7 **13.** The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the media operation  
8 includes recording the media file onto a permanent medium.

9  
10 **14.** The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the media operation  
11 includes recording the media file onto a compact disk.

12  
13 **15.** The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the media operation  
14 includes recording the media file onto a digital video disk.

15  
16 **16.** A system comprising:  
17 a media player; and  
18 a media operation integrator in communication with the media player and  
19 capable of receiving, from one of multiple remote media providers, instructions to  
20 customize the media player,  
21 wherein the media player is capable of following the instructions.

22  
23 **17.** The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is configured to follow  
24 the instructions after the media player receives a request to provide an operation  
25

1 with respect to a media file that is attributable to the remote media provider that  
2 provided the instructions.

3  
4 **18.** The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is configured to play or  
5 not play a media file attributable to the remote media provider based on the  
6 instructions from the remote media provider.

7  
8 **19.** The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is configured to record  
9 or not record onto a permanent medium a media file attributable to the remote  
10 media provider based on the instructions from the remote media provider.

11  
12 **20.** The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is configured to  
13 download or not download onto a portable device a media file attributable to the  
14 remote media provider based on the instructions from the remote media provider.

15  
16 **21.** The system of claim 16, further comprising a user interface customizable  
17 by the media player, wherein the instructions include altering the user interface.

18  
19 **22.** The system of claim 16, further comprising a registry database of remote  
20 media providers from which instructions can be received, wherein the media  
21 operation integrator is capable of refusing the instructions if the remote media  
22 provider is not included in the registry database.

23  
24 **23.** The system of claim 16, wherein the instructions include computer code  
25 executable at request of the media player.

1  
2 **24.** The system of claim 16, further comprising a registry database of remote  
3 media providers from which instructions can be received, wherein the registry  
4 database is capable of being altered.

5  
6 **25.** The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is capable of building a  
7 record of a number of times an operation is performed by the media player with  
8 respect to a media file.

9  
10 **26.** The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is capable of building a  
11 record of a number of times an operation is performed by the media player with  
12 respect to a media file and the media operation integrator is further capable of  
13 communicating the record to the remote media provider to which the media file is  
14 attributable.

15  
16 **27.** The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is capable of building a  
17 record of a number of times the media player plays a media file and  
18 communicating the record to the remote media provider to which the media file is  
19 attributable.

20  
21 **28.** A system comprising:  
22 a media player; and  
23 a code module received from a remote media provider,  
24  
25

1        wherein the media player is configured to call the code module when it  
2 receives a request to perform an operation with respect to a media file attributable  
3 to the remote media provider.

4  
5 **29.**    The system of claim 28, wherein the media player is further configured to  
6 call the code module using one or more APIs.

7  
8 **30.**    The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions  
9 governing how the media player is to display a name for the remote media  
10 provider.

11  
12 **31.**    The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions  
13 governing how the media player is to display a name for the media file.

14  
15 **32.**    The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions  
16 governing whether or not the media player is to perform the operation.

17  
18 **33.**    The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions  
19 governing whether or not the media player is to perform the operation, and the  
20 operation includes playing the media file.

21  
22 **34.**    The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions  
23 governing whether or not the media player is to perform the operation, and the  
24 operation includes copying the media file onto a permanent medium.  
25

1 35. The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions  
2 governing whether or not the media player is to perform the operation, and the  
3 operation includes copying the media file onto a temporary medium.

4  
5 36. The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions  
6 governing how the media player is to structure a user interface to show a user that  
7 it is performing the operation.

8  
9 37. The system of claim 28, further comprising:  
10 a second code module received from a second remote media provider, and  
11 wherein the media player is further configured to call the second code  
12 module when it receives a second request to perform a second operation with  
13 respect to a second media file attributable to the second remote media provider.

14  
15 38. The system of claim 28, further comprising:  
16 a second code module received from a second remote media provider, and  
17 wherein the media player is further configured to indicate to a user that:  
18 the media file is attributable to the remote media provider; and  
19 one or more second media files received from the second remote  
20 media provider are attributable to the second remote media provider.

21  
22 39. A method comprising:  
23 receiving input into a media player's user interface to gain access to a  
24 remote media provider;

1 enabling the remote media provider to present a set of media operations  
2 within the user interface;  
3 enabling selection of one of the media operations through the user interface;  
4 and  
5 performing the selected media operation.  
6

7 **40.** The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes  
8 downloading a media file, and further comprising integrating the media file into a  
9 media library.  
10

11 **41.** The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes  
12 downloading a media file, and further comprising saving the media file in a folder  
13 based on metadata associated with the media file.  
14

15 **42.** The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes  
16 downloading a media file.  
17

18 **43.** The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes  
19 downloading a media file and further comprising:

20 receiving metadata with respect to the media file; and  
21 renaming the media file based on the metadata.  
22

23 **44.** The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes  
24 playing a media file.  
25



1 **45.** The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes  
2 recording a media file.

3  
4 **46.** The method of claim 39, wherein the enabling the remote media provider  
5 includes presenting a media provider user interface within the media player user  
6 interface.

7  
8 **47.** The method of claim 39, wherein the enabling the remote media provider  
9 includes presenting a webpage of the remote media provider within the media  
10 player user interface.

11  
12 **48.** A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions  
13 that perform the following when executed by a computer:

14 receiving a media file;

15 locating metadata associated with the media file; and

16 storing the media file according to the metadata.

17  
18 **49.** The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing includes  
19 saving the media file in a folder named after an author of the media file.

20  
21 **50.** The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing includes  
22 saving the media file in a folder named after an author of the media file and a  
23 subfolder named after an album title of the media file.

1 **51.** The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing includes  
2 saving the media file in a folder named after an author of the media file, a  
3 subfolder named after an album title of the media file, and a sub-subfolder named  
4 after a track name of the media file.

5  
6 **52.** The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing includes  
7 saving the media file with a name associated with the metadata.

8  
9 **53.** The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing includes  
10 adding a link to the media file in a media library.

11  
12 **54.** The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing is  
13 performed immediately after the receiving and without user interaction.

14  
15 **55.** The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein if the receiving is  
16 interrupted, further comprising automatically restarting the receiving.

17  
18 **56.** A user interface comprising:  
19 a first graphical interface configured to enable a user to select a remote  
20 media provider from multiple remote media providers;  
21 a second graphical interface configured to enable the user to select a media  
22 file presented by the remote media provider; and  
23 a visual space configured to render the media file.  
24  
25

1 **57.** The user interface of claim 56, wherein the second graphical interface is  
2 tailored to the selected media provider.

3  
4 **58.** The user interface of claim 56, wherein the second graphical interface is  
5 tailored to the selected media provider and is enclosed within the first graphical  
6 interface.

7  
8 **59.** The user interface of claim 56, wherein the second graphical interface is  
9 generated with a webpage from the selected media provider.

10  
11 **60.** A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions  
12 that perform the following when executed by a computer:

13 receiving a code module from a remote media provider;

14 receiving a request to perform a media operation; and

15 executing the code module to determine whether or not the requested media  
16 operation is allowable or not allowable.

17  
18 **61.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein the code module is  
19 callable with an API.

20  
21 **62.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:

22 receiving a request to integrate the remote media provider into a media  
23 player; and

24 requesting the code module from the remote media provider.

1 **63.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein a media player  
2 application receives the code module, receives the request to perform the media  
3 operation, and performs the media operation if the requested media operation is  
4 allowable.

5  
6 **64.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising altering a  
7 media player application's user interface to include a control enabling a user to  
8 select to be connected to the remote media provider.

9  
10 **65.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising altering a  
11 media player application's user interface to include a webpage of the remote  
12 media provider.

13  
14 **66.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:  
15 altering a media player application's user interface to include a web page of  
16 the remote media provider; and  
17 enabling a user to interact with the remote media provider through the  
18 media player application's user interface.

19  
20 **67.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:  
21 receiving a second code module;  
22 receiving a third code module; and  
23 receiving a fourth code module.  
24  
25

1 **68.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:  
2 receiving a second code module; and  
3 performing background processing requested by the remote media provider  
4 using the second code module.

5  
6 **69.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:  
7 receiving a second code module;  
8 performing background processing requested by the remote media provider;  
9 and  
10 communicating a result of the background processing to the remote media  
11 provider.

12  
13 **70.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:  
14 receiving a second code module; and  
15 compiling a number of times media files attributable to the remote media  
16 provider have been played.

17  
18 **71.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:  
19 receiving a second code module; and  
20 determining a license status with respect to a media file using the second  
21 code module; and  
22 communicating the status to the remote media provider.

23  
24 **72.** The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:  
25 receiving a second code module; and

1           creating a user interface with aid of executing the second code module.

2  
3       **73.**   The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein the requested  
4       operation is playing a media file.

5  
6       **74.**   The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein the requested  
7       operation is recording a media file onto a portable media-playing device.

8  
9       **75.**   The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein the requested  
10      operation is recording a media file onto a portable media-playing device.

11  
12      **76.**   The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein the requested  
13      operation is recording a media file onto a permanent medium.

14  
15      **77.**   A method comprising:  
16           receiving first instructions from a first remote media provider;  
17           receiving second instructions from a second remote media provider; and  
18           tailoring a media player to conform to the first instructions and the second  
19      instructions.

20  
21      **78.**   The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes altering a user  
22      interface of the media player.

1 **79.** The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes altering a visual  
2 space dedicated to the media player by incorporating a media-control module  
3 within the media player that generates a user interface within the visual space.  
4

5 **80.** The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes adding a name for  
6 the first remote media provider to a media provider selection screen of a user  
7 interface of the media player.  
8

9 **81.** The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes adding a name for  
10 the second remote media provider to a media provider selection screen of a user  
11 interface of the media player.  
12

13 **82.** The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes adding a selection  
14 control enabling a user to select to be connected to a URL associated with the first  
15 remote media provider.  
16

17 **83.** The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes incorporating a  
18 webpage associated with the first remote media provider into a user interface of  
19 the media player.  
20

21 **84.** The method of claim 77, further comprising receiving a media file from the  
22 first remote media provider, wherein the tailoring includes automatically  
23 incorporating a link to the media file into a media file library of the media player.  
24  
25

1   **85.**    A method comprising:  
2           receiving permission from a remote media provider to play a media file;  
3           enabling play of the media file;  
4           determining that the permission is expired;  
5           communicating with the remote media provider to determine if the  
6   permission is renewed; and  
7           disabling play of the media file if the permission is not renewed.

8  
9   **86.**    The method of claim 85, wherein the disabling is not performed until the  
10   communicating is performed.

11  
12   **87.**    The method of claim 85, wherein the determining that the permission is  
13   expired is performed in part by recording a number of times that the media file  
14   plays.

15  
16   **88.**    The method of claim 85, wherein the determining that the permission is  
17   expired is performed by assessing if a date is passed.

18  
19   **89.**    The method of claim 85, further comprising playing the media file.

20  
21   **90.**    The method of claim 85, further comprising:  
22           playing the media file; and  
23           recording that the media file is played.  
24  
25



1   **91.**   The method of claim 85, further comprising:

2       playing the media file;

3       recording that the media file is played; and

4       communicating the record to the remote media provider.

5  
6   **92.**   A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions  
7   that perform the following when executed by a computer:

8       receiving, from a media provider across a communications network,  
9   permission allowing a use of a media file;

10      recording the permitted use; and

11      performing the permitted use.

12  
13   **93.**   The computer-readable medium of claim 92, wherein the permitted use  
14   includes playing the media file.

15  
16   **94.**   The computer-readable medium of claim 92, wherein the permitted use  
17   includes recording the media file on a permanent medium.

18  
19   **95.**   The computer-readable medium of claim 92, wherein the permitted use  
20   includes recording the media file on a temporary medium.

21  
22   **96.**   An apparatus comprising:

23      means for receiving instructions from a remote media provider;

24      means for receiving a request to perform a media operation; and

1 means for determining whether or not the requested media operation is  
2 allowable or not allowable based on the instructions.

3  
4 **97.** The apparatus of claim 96, further comprising:  
5 means for performing the requested media operation.  
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